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A Winding-Sheet for the  
**PRESBYTERIAN.**

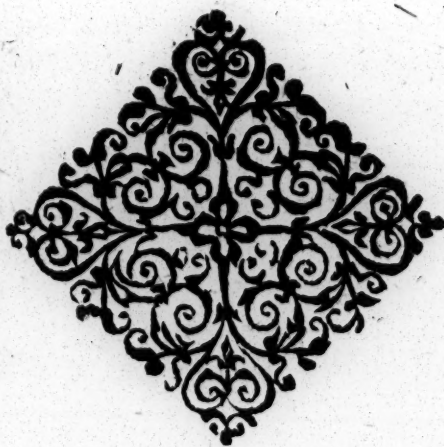
Or a

Mite touching the Ordination of  
**MINISTERS.**

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By **ARISE EVANS.**

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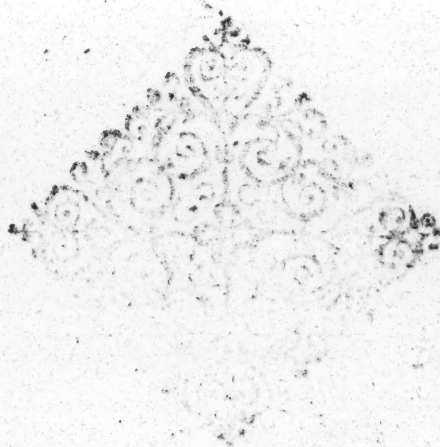
**Sold by the Author at Mr. Cadell's in Black Fryars.  
near the Kings Play-House.**

THE HISTORY OF

THE ORIGIN OF

MINISTERS

BY ARTHUR EVANS.



Sold by the Author at Mr. Cadell's in Great Britain.  
near the Kings Play-House.



## A Mite touching the Ordination of Ministers;

*Courteous READERS examine diligently the proofs of  
Scripture in this little Work, for it tends to the  
Salvation of your souls, bodyes and estate.*

**M**En and Brethren let me tell you in love : that if  
your Ministers were not ordained to the mi-  
nistry by Bishops, they have not the spirit of  
truth, and ye ought not to hear them, they are  
not sent of God, their ordination is nothing, and it will  
come to nothing, for I shall briefly shew you by Scripture  
that your Presbytery (falsly so called) have no power  
from God to ordain Ministers : neither doe they under-  
stand the word Presbytery, on which they ground their  
power, 1 Tim. 4. 14. which word is Prophets, or Elder  
Elders, or Eldership ; for so the Greek word *Πρεσβυτερις*  
signifyeth, which word ye have no where else in Scri-  
pture, but only in 1 Tim. 4. 14. ye have *Πρεσβυτερος*, or *Πρε-  
σβυτερος*, or *Πρεσβυτερος* : but not *Πρεσβυτερις* no where else  
save only 1 Tim. 4. 14. and it means Prophets, as the words  
going before doth sufficiently manifest it : for saith he



1 Tim. 4. 14. neglect not the gift that is in thee : which was given thee by Prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the Prophets : and St. Paul renders it *Πρεσβυτεριον* , or in English Elder Elders or Eldership , because the Prophets were of a more ancient order then the Apostles , for Enoch was a Prophet Jude 14. 15. yet they were now under the Apostles or Bishops , 1 Cor. 12. 28. Ephes. 4. 11. and an Apostle and a Bishop is all one, for Christ is called an Apostle Heb. 3. 1. and a Bishop 1 Peter 2. 25. and Judas before he fell was a Bishop Act. 1. 20. an Apostle signifies a planter, and a Bishop signifies a Steward or overseer, he that planteth a Church and looks well to it , is an Apostle and a Bishop, but to wave that discourse and come forward : there was in the Apostles time abundance of Prophets , and they were not ordained of any man , neither did they ordain any , for God raised them in a miraculous way, 1 Sam. 10. 11. 12. they had no power to ordain Ministers , that was the work of the Apostles and Bishops; but the Prophets did encourage the Ministers to go forth and preach , and told them their best way, and what Countryes and Cities was dangerous for them to goe into; and them Prophets alwayes spake in the name of the holy Ghost; saying thus saith the holy Ghost Act. 13. 1, 2. Act. 16. 6, 7. Act. 20. 23. Act. 21. 4. 10, 11. and St. Paul and Barnabas was sent forth to preach by the holy Ghost , and the Prophets laid their hand upon them Act. 13. 1, 2, 3, 4. but it was done above 17. years after St. Pauls conversion Act. 9. 6. Galat. 1. 17. 18. Galat. 2. 1. Act. 9. 26. 27, 28, 29, 30. Act. 11. from verse 22. to the end of the Chapter, Act. 12. 25. and if you compare these Scriptures above cited one with another , for that is the way to find out the truth 1 Cor. 2. 13. you shall find it to be above 17. years after St. Paul began to preach at Damascus

marcus *Act. 9. 20, 21, 22.* and surely *St. Paul* and *Barnabas*  
 having been so often with the Apostles sent forth to  
 preach, and received into fellowship by them *Galat. 2. 7,*  
*8, 9.* were ordained Ministers long before that time they  
 came to Antioch *Act. 13. 1, 2, 3, 4.* and that which the  
 Prophets did to them then: It is not said that they or-  
 dained them, but it is said that they *Recommended them*  
*to the grace of God, Act. 13. 1, 2, 3, 4. Act. 14. 26.* and if ye  
 would have that to be their ordination then Ministers  
 must be often ordained; for *St. Paul* was *Recommended*  
*again to the grace of God,* by the same Prophets that abode  
 at Antioch *Act. 15. 30. 40. Act. 13. 1, 2, 3, 4.* and if you  
 compare *Act. 13. 1, 2, 3, 4.* with *1 Tim. 4. 14.* you shall find  
 that the Prophets prophesied good things concerning  
*Timothy*, that he should be a good Minister and do great  
 matters in converting the world, laying their hands upon  
 him as they spake, that was all, and to this agreeth *St. Pauls*  
 charge to him to warfare according to the prophesies,  
 which went before on him, *1 Tim. 1. 18.* but *Timothy* was  
 ordained a Minister by *St. Pauls* own hands *2 Tim. 1. 6.*  
 therefore *St. Paul* calls *his own Son*, *1 Tim. 1. 2. his dear*  
*beloved Son, 2 Tim. 1. 2.* because none other Minister had  
 a hand in the begetting or the ordaining of him to the  
 Ministry, but of *St. Paul* himself, which ordained *Timo-*  
*thy* as he ordained them twelve, *Act. 19. 6, 7.* who were  
 them Ministers of *Ephesus*, *St. Paul* sent for to *Miletus*  
*Act. 20. 17.* and if ye compare *1 Tim. 4. 14.* with *2 Tim. 1.*  
*6.* you shall find much difference between the one Text  
 and the other, for saith he *2 Tim. 1. 6. Stir up the gift of*  
*God, which is in thee, by the putting on of my hands,* but saith  
 he *1 Tim. 4. 14. Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which*  
*was given thee by Prophecy with the laying on of the hands*  
*of the Prophets, or Elder Elders or Eldership; Mark the*  
 first.



first, he calls the gift of God, and bids Timothy to stir it up in him, the second he calls a gift, he doth not call it the gift of God, nor doth he bid Timothy stir it up in himself; but saith he neglect not the gift, or *despise not prophesyings*, 1 *Thessal.* 5. 20. see here St. Paul presseth upon Timothy the gift of God in his ordaining of him to the ministry of Iesus Christ, but for the sayings of the Prophets, he bids him not neglect them or *despise prophesyings*, 1 *Tim.* 4. 14. 1. 1 *Thessal.* 5. 20. 21. but to fulfill them, 1 *Tim.* 1. 18. as St. Paul and Barnabas had done, *Act.* 13. 1, 2, 3, 4. *Act.* 14. 26. and thence they sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God, for the work which they fulfilled: and again you may see by the Scripture that to commend and to ordain are two several things, *Act.* 14. 23. and when they had ordained them Elders in every Church and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord on whom they believed: and these Elders ordination was thus, St. Paul laid his hands on some, and Barnabas on the others, as ye see, *Act.* 19, 6, 7. for ordination of Ministers is a similitude of the procreation of Priests under the Law, and as those priests were bastards and sons of whores, that had three or four priests to beget them; so spiritually are those Ministers bastards & sons of whores, who had many ministers hands on them in their ordination, therefore according to the Scripture as ye have it in the Book of Ordination of Ministers, the Lord Bishop himself alone layeth his hands upon the Deacons head at his first ordination to the ministry, and then he receives the gift of God, and is begotten 1 *Tim.* 1, 2. 2 *Tim.* 1. 2. 6. *Philem.* 10. *Titus* 1. 4. and that which in after times is done to him are but Ceremonies that must be used by the Lord Bishop and others, to prefer him into higher degrees in the ministry,

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as there was Ceremonies used to the sons of *Aaron* by the old Law , *Exod.* 40. 12, 13, 14, 15. and as a Priest by the old Law must needs be the seed of *Aaron* , else no Ceremony could make him a Priest after the old Law ; so I say now, if a Minister as abovesaid, have not his being only from a Lord Bishop at first, he cannot be a Minister of God, by no means else; now you see brethren that your Presbytery ordination is a false thing, having not the least shadow of truth in it, for your Presbytery deny any Prophets to be in our dayes : Therefore they have no right at all to shelter themselves under their shadows; if there were any hopes that way as they would perswade you , from 1 *Tim.* 4. 14. but you may see by what I have spoken , how they deceive themselves and you , and as their false Presbytery ordination came to have an usurping visible power, and being for a time by the strength of *Apollyons* Rebellious bloody sword of war : so it shall be utterly null'd and made void by the righteous sword of the Prince of peace, and he that will favour their way shall be destroyed for ever.

By *ARISE EVANS.*

F I N I S.